

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 19 November 2007.

Claims 4-5, 13-14, 16, 18-19 and 24-26 have been cancelled. New claims 27 and 28 have been added.

Claims 1-3, 6-12, 15, 17, 20-23 and 27-28 are currently pending.

Drawings

The Office Action contains an objection to the drawings under 37 CFR §1.83(a). In particular, the Examiner required that the "prismatic robot" recited in claim 24 either be shown in the drawings or cancelled from the claims.

Claim 24 has been cancelled. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings is now moot.

Specification

The Office Action contains an objection to certain informalities in the disclosure. In particular, the Examiner has required changes to the punctuation in paragraphs [0003] and [0008]-[0010].

Paragraphs [0003] and [0008]-[0010] have been amended as required by the Examiner.

Claims - Compliance with 35 USC §112

Claims 1-26 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. In particular, the Examiner contended that the bodies of the independent claims were "not specific to leak detection".

The independent claims have all been amended to clarify that "the location of the gas leak is indicated by the location of the sensor array". Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims of this application comply with 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

Claims - Compliance with 35 USC §§102-103

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 12, 13, 16-19 and 21-26 stand rejected under 35 USC §§102(b), 102(e) and/or 103(a). U.S. Patents No. 5,979,239 to Youngquist et al., No. 6,701,772 to Kreichauf et al., No. 6,422,061 to Sunshine et al., No. 5,279,795 to Hughes et al. and No. 5,440,916 to Stone et al. have been cited in support of these rejections.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features recited in claim 5 (which was indicated to be allowable) and to address the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as noted above. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1, as well as claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11-12 which depend therefrom, are patentable over the cited references.

Claim 8 (which was indicated to be allowable) has been amended to be in independent form and to address the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as noted above. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 8 is patentable over the cited references.

The Office Action fails to list claim 10 under the heading "Allowable Subject Matter", but it is noted that claim 10 only stands rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claim 10 has been amended to address the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as noted above. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 10 is patentable over the cited references.

Claim 15 (which was indicated to be allowable) has been amended to address the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as noted above. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 15 is patentable over the cited references.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the features recited in claim 20 (which was indicated to be allowable) and to address the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as noted above. Claim 17 has also been amended to omit the term "simultaneously", which was added by the Amendment of 24 August 2007. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 17, as well as claims 21-23 and 27-28 which depend therefrom, are patentable over the cited references.

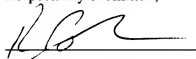
Claim 20 (which was indicated to be allowable) has been amended to be in independent form and to address the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as noted above. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 8 is patentable over the cited references.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing amendments and arguments, the Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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